

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties number: HA-1715
Name: Southampton Rd. over Rappahannock River

The bridge referenced herein was inventoried by the Maryland State Highway Administration as part of the Historic Bridge Inventory, and SHA provided the Trust with eligibility determinations in February 2001. The Trust accepted the Historic Bridge Inventory on April 3, 2001. The bridge received the following determination of eligibility.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST	
Eligibility Recommended _____	Eligibility Not Recommended <u>X</u> _____
Criteria: <u> </u> A <u> </u> B <u> </u> C <u> </u> D Considerations: <u> </u> A <u> </u> B <u> </u> C <u> </u> D <u> </u> E <u> </u> F <u> </u> G <u> </u> None	
Comments: _____ _____ _____	
Reviewer, OPS: <u>Anne E. Bruder</u>	Date: <u>3 April 2001</u>
Reviewer, NR Program: <u>Peter E. Kurtze</u>	Date: <u>3 April 2001</u>

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✓

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC BRIDGES
HISTORIC BRIDGE INVENTORY
MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION/
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MHT No. HA-1715

SHA Bridge No. H-47 Bridge name Southampton Road over Bynum Run

LOCATION:

Street/Road name and number [facility carried] Southampton Road

City/town Bel Air Vicinity X

County Harford

This bridge projects over: Road Railway Water X Land

Ownership: State County X Municipal Other

HISTORIC STATUS:

Is the bridge located within a designated historic district? Yes No X

National Register-listed district National Register-determined-eligible district

Locally-designated district Other

Name of district

BRIDGE TYPE:

Timber Bridge :

Beam Bridge Truss -Covered Trestle Timber-And-Concrete

Stone Arch Bridge

Metal Truss Bridge

Movable Bridge :

Swing

Vertical Lift

Bascule Single Leaf

Retractable

Bascule Multiple Leaf

Pontoon

Metal Girder X:

Rolled Girder X

Plate Girder

Rolled Girder Concrete Encased

Plate Girder Concrete Encased

Metal Suspension

Metal Arch

Metal Cantilever

Concrete :

Concrete Arch Concrete Slab Concrete Beam Rigid Frame

Other Type Name

DESCRIPTION:

Setting: Urban X Small town Rural

This bridge was previously surveyed by the Harford County Department of Public Works and the Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning in June 1996. The following is a revised version of the bridge inventory form prepared at that time.

Describe Setting:

Bridge No. H-47 carries Southampton Road over Bynum Run in Harford County. Southampton Road runs east-west and Bynum Run flows north-south. The bridge is located in the vicinity of Bel Air, and is surrounded by residential properties.

Describe Superstructure and Substructure:

Bridge No. H-47 is a 2-span, 2-lane, metal girder bridge, constructed circa 1930. Records on the original design of the bridge are not available, however, between 1962 and 1964, the east span was replaced with a metal girder span with a metal deck and the ends of the metal girders in the west span were encased in concrete. The remaining original span of the structure is 25 feet long and the replacement span is 30 feet long, for a total bridge length of 55 feet. The structure has a clear roadway width of 22 feet, 4 inches and the out-to-out width is 24 feet. The superstructure consists of ten (10) rolled girders which support a concrete deck on the west span and a corrugated metal deck on the east span and a metal pipe railing. The girders are spaced 2 feet, 8 inches apart and the roadway is carried on the girders. The concrete deck on the west span is 8 inches thick and it has a bituminous wearing surface. The structure has 3½ inch pipe railings, which were added to the structure between 1962 and 1964. The substructure consists of two (2) concrete abutments and one (1) pier. There are four (4) flared wing walls. The bridge is posted for 11 tons, and the sufficiency rating for the structure is 67.0.

According to the 1995 inspection report, this structure is in good condition. The metal girders have minor pitting and the top flanges of the girders on the east span exhibit corrosion and delamination due to water penetration through the metal deck. The abutments and wing walls are in good condition with random hairline cracks. The southwest wing wall has an area of spalled concrete. The pier has vertical cracks and is moderately undermined. The concrete footing has moderate scouring and is broken at the west side of the pier. The pipe railing have light surface rust and are in good condition.

Discuss Major Alterations:

Between 1962 and 1964, the original east span of this 2-span structure was replaced. The ends of the metal girders of the west span were encased in concrete. New concrete abutments were constructed at the east and west ends of the structure. The new span is supported by metal girders and has a corrugated metal deck. In 1992, the structure was cleaned and the structural steel painted, and in 1993, spalls and cracks in the concrete surfaces of the bridge were repaired.

HISTORY:

WHEN was the bridge built: 1930/1962-64

This date is: Actual Estimated X

Source of date: Plaque Design plans County bridge files/inspection form X

Other (specify)

WHY was the bridge built?

The bridge was constructed in response to the need for more efficient transportation network and increased load capacity.

WHO was the designer?

Unknown

WHO was the builder?

Unknown

WHY was the bridge altered?

Unknown

Was this bridge built as part of an organized bridge-building campaign?

There is no evidence that the bridge was built as part of an organized bridge building campaign.

SURVEYOR/HISTORIAN ANALYSIS:

This bridge may have National Register significance for its association with:

A - Events _____ **B- Person** _____
C- Engineering/architectural character _____

The bridge does not have National Register significance.

Was the bridge constructed in response to significant events in Maryland or local history?

Metal girder bridges were most likely introduced and first popularized in Maryland by the state's major railroads of the nineteenth century including the Baltimore and Susquehanna, its successor the Northern Central, and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Bridge engineering historians have documented the fact that James Milholland (or Mulholland) erected the earliest plate girder span in the United States on the Baltimore and Susquehanna Railroad in 1846 at Bolton Station, near present-day Mount Royal Station. The sides (web) and bottom flange of Milholland's 54-foot-long span were wholly of wrought iron and included a top flange reinforced with a 12x12-inch timber. Plates employed in the bridge were 6 feet deep and 38 inches wide, giving the entire bridge a total weight of some 14 tons. Milholland's pioneering plate girder cost \$2,200 (Tyrrell 1911:195). By December 31, 1861, the Northern Central Railroad, which succeeded the Baltimore and Susquehanna, maintained an operating inventory in Maryland of 50 or more bridges described simply as "girder" spans, in addition to a number of Howe trusses. Most of these were probably iron girder bridges; the longest were the 117-foot double-span bridge over Jones Falls and the 106-foot double-span girder bridge at Piercc's Mill (Gunnarson 1990:179-180).

As in the nation, girder bridge technology in Maryland was quickly adapted to cope with the increasingly heavy traffic demands of the twentieth century caused by automobile and truck traffic. The 1899 Maryland Geological Survey report on highways noted that "there are comparatively few I-beam bridges, one of the cheapest and best forms for spans less than 25 or 30 feet" (Johnson 1899:206). Interestingly, the report also urged construction of a composite metal, brick, and concrete

bridge, noting that "no method of construction is more durable than the combination of masonry and I-beams, between which are transverse arches of brick, the whole covered with concrete, over which is laid the roadway" (Johnson 1899:206). Whether any such bridges (transitional structures between I-beams and reinforced concrete spans) were built is unknown.

Official state and county highway reports—issued between 1900 and the early 1920s through the Highway Division of the Maryland Geological Survey and its successor, the State Roads Commission—generally do not reference or describe girder construction. An analysis of the current statewide listing of county and municipal bridges (a listing maintained by the State Highway Administration) reveals that 48 county bridges, out of the total of 141 approximately dated to "1900" by county engineers, were listed as steel girder, steel stringer, or variants of such terms. (It should be noted that the "1900" date is often given when no exact date is pinpointed for a bridge that is clearly old). A grand total of 200 bridges (including "steel culverts"), out of 550 bridges dated on the county list between 1901 and 1930, were described as steel beam, steel girder, or steel stringer and girder varieties. The total suggests that among the various highway bridge types built in the early twentieth century metal girder bridges in Maryland between 1900 and 1930 were second in popularity only to reinforced concrete bridges. However, these numbers must be interpreted with caution, as they do not necessarily include all county and municipal bridges.

When the bridge was built and/or given a major alteration, did it have a significant impact on the growth and development of the area?

There is no evidence that the construction of this bridge had a significant impact on the growth and development of this area.

Is the bridge located in an area which may be eligible for historic designation and would the bridge add to or detract from the historic/visual character of the potential district?

This bridge is located adjacent to the Heighe House Historic District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, however, the structure is not within the boundaries of the district and has no historical association with the district.

Is the bridge a significant example of its type?

A significant example of a metal girder bridge should possess character-defining elements of its type, and be readily recognizable as an historic structure from the perspective of the traveler. The integrity of distinctive features visible from the roadway approach, including parapet walls or railings, is important in structures which are common examples of their type. In addition, the structure must be in excellent condition. The integrity of this bridge has been compromised by the construction of the new east span in the 1960s. In addition, alterations to features of the remaining original section of the bridge, such as the encasement of the girder ends, construction of a new abutment, and the removal of the original parapets have compromised the integrity of the structure.

Does the bridge retain integrity of important elements described in Context Addendum?

This bridge was reconstructed between 1962 and 1964, resulting in the alteration of such character-defining elements as the girders and abutments and the loss of features such as the deck and parapets.

Is the bridge a significant example of the work of a manufacturer, designer, and/or engineer?

This bridge is not a significant example of the work of a manufacturer, designer, and/or engineer.

Should the bridge be given further study before an evaluation of its significance is made?

No further study of this bridge is required to evaluate its significance.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

County inspection/bridge files X **SHA inspection/bridge files** _____
Other (list):

Gunnarson, Robert

1990 *The Story of the Northern Central Railway, From Baltimore to Lake Ontario.* Greenberg Publishing Co., Sykesville, Maryland.

Johnson, Arthur Newhall

1899 *The Present Condition of Maryland Highways. In Report on the Highways of Maryland.* Maryland Geological Survey, The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore.

Travis, Sarah E. and Christopher H. Weeks

1996 *Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, Historic Bridge Inventory: Bridge H-47.* Harford County Department of Public Works and Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning, Bel Air, Maryland.

Tyrrell, Henry G.

1911 *History of Bridge Engineering.* Published by author, Chicago.

SURVEYOR:

Date bridge recorded 2/25/97

Name of surveyor Caroline Hall

Organization/Address P.A.C. Spero & Co., 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21204

Phone number (410) 296-1685 **FAX number** (410) 296-1670

Maryland Historic Highway Bridges

Bridge Type Metal Girder

MHT # HA-1715

Map Aberdeen Map # B-14

County Harford

Bridge # and name H-47/

Southampton Rd. over Bynum Run



WEIGHT
LIMIT
11
TONS



1. HA-1715

2. Southampton Rd over Bynum Run

3. Harford Co, MD

4. Caroline Hall

5. 3/97

6. MD SHPO

7. south side

8. 1 of 6



1. HA-1715
2. Southampton Rd over Bysam Run
3. Harford Co, MD
4. Caroline Hall
5. 3/97
6. MD SHPO
7. north side
8. 2 of 6



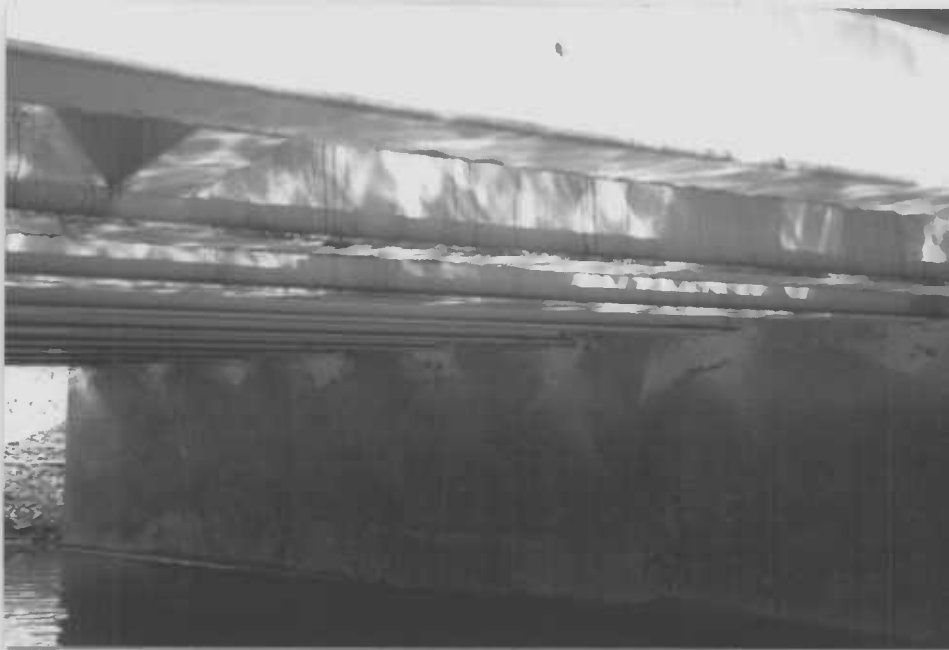
1. HA-1715
2. H-47; Southampton Rd over Bynum Run
3. Harford Co., MD
4. Caroline Hall
5. 3/97
6. MD SHPO
7. south side, view east
8. 3 of 6



1. HA-1715
2. Southampton Rd over Lynum Run-H47
3. Harford Co, MD
4. Caroline Hall
5. 3/97
6. MD SHPO
7. roadway approach, view west
8. 4 of 6



1. HA-1715
2. H-47; Southampton Rd over Bynum Run
3. Harford Co, MD
4. Caroline Hall
5. 3/97
6. MD SHPO
7. roadway approach, view east
8. 5 of 6



1. HA-1715

2. H-47; Southampton Rd over Bynum Run

3. Harford Co., MD

4. Caroline Hall

5. 3/97

6. MD SHPO

7. detail of substructure

8. 6 of 6

**INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property/District Name: Southampton Road Bridge Survey Number: HA-1715

Project: Southampton Rd Bridge Replacement Agency: FHWA/SHA

Site visit by MHT Staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name _____ Date _____

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility **not** recommended ☒

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

The Southampton Road Bridge over Bynum Road and located just north of Bel Air in Harford County, MD is located within the boundaries of the Heighe House (HA-1770), listed on the National Register. The bridge is not considered a contributing resource to the property nor is it considered individually eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The bridge was not included in the Statewide bridge inventory (reason not determined). The bridge holds bridge number H-47 by the Maryland Department of Public Works.

The Southampton Road Bridge over Bynum Run is a two-lane, simple-span, steel-beam bridge originally constructed in 1930 and significantly altered in the 1950s. As originally constructed, the structure was a single-span, steel stringer bridge with a reinforced concrete deck supported by full-height concrete abutments. In the 1950s a second simple span was added consisting of corrugated metal-plate flooring with a bituminous wearing surface supported by steel stringers. The original east abutment was converted into a concrete pier, and a new east abutment was constructed. Due to these major alterations, the property has lost its integrity and is not considered eligible for listing on the Register.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MIHP form, March 1997
Files

Prepared by: Robinson & Associates, MIHP Form and DOE letter

Kimberly Prothro Williams April 30, 1997
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: ☒ yes ☐ no ☐ not applicable

Peter G. Kuster 5/1/97
Reviewer, NR program Date

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

☐ Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
☐ Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles,
 Prince George's and St. Mary's)
☒ Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll,
 Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
☐ Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

☐ Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
☐ Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
☐ Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
☐ Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
☐ Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
☐ Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
☐ Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
☐ Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
☐ Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
☐ Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
☐ Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
☒ Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
☐ Unknown Period (☐ prehistoric ☐ historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

☐ Subsistence
☐ Settlement
☐ Political
☐ Demographic
☐ Religion
☐ Technology
☐ Environmental Adaptation

IV. Historic Period Themes:

☐ Agriculture
☐ Architecture, Landscape Architecture,
 and Community Planning
☐ Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
☐ Government/Law
☐ Military
☐ Religion
☐ Social/Educational/Cultural
☒ Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: StructureHistoric Environment: RuralHistoric Function(s) and Use(s): Transportation/Bridge

Known Design Source: _____

HA-1715

SOUTHAMPTON ROAD BRIDGE OVER BYNUM RUN

Location: Vicinity of the town of Bel Air, Maryland (Harford County)

Date of Construction: 1930, altered 1950s

Access: Public

The Southampton Road Bridge over Bynum Run is located just northeast of the town of Bel Air, Maryland. This two-lane, simple-span, steel-beam bridge has been assigned the number H-47 by the Harford County Government for identification purposes, and is located within the boundaries of Heighe House (HA-1770), a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The bridge carries traffic on Southampton Road, which runs generally east-west, over Bynum Run, which runs north-south, and is located in a once-rural area of the county which is rapidly becoming more suburban in character. There are residences and scattered fields adjacent to both the bridge and the road.

The Southampton Road Bridge was built to replace an earlier bridge at the same location. The bridge's original lane was constructed in 1930, and a second lane, which doubled the size of the bridge, was added in the 1950s. The identities of the designer and builder of the bridge are not known. It was likely built by Harford County or by a contractor hired by the county. The bridge is a representative example of metal girder bridge construction, a type of which hundreds were built across Maryland prior to World War II.

Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form
Maryland Comprehensive Historic Plan Data
Southampton Road Bridge over Bynum Run, Harford County, MD - HA-1715

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data

Geographical Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Development Periods: Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes: Transportation

Resource Type:

Category: structure

Historic Environment: rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): transportation

Known Design Source: none

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

Survey No. HA-1715
Magi No.
DOE ____yes ____no

1. Name

Historic Name Southampton Road Bridge over Bynum Run

Common Name and Building Number Harford County Bridge #H-47

2. Location

Street and Number Spanning Bynum Run

City, Town just northeast of the town of Bel Air

Congressional District first

State Maryland

County Harford

3. Classification

Category

☐ District
☐ Building(s)
☒ Structure
☐ Site
☐ Object

Ownership

☒ Public
☐ Private
☐ Both
Public Acquisition
☐ In Process
☐ Being Considered
☐ Not Applicable

Status

☐ Occupied
☐ Unoccupied
☐ Work in Progress
Accessible
☐ Yes: Restricted
☒ Yes: Unrestricted
☐ No

Present use

☐ Agriculture
☐ Commercial
☐ Educational
☐ Entertainment
☐ Government
☐ Industrial
☐ Military
☐ Museum
☐ Park
☐ Private Residence
☐ Religious
☐ Scientific
☒ Transportation
☐ Other: Housing

4. Owner of Property (all owners)

Name Harford County Government

Street & Number 220 South Main Street

Telephone No. (410) 638-3509

City, Town Bel Air

State and Zip Code Maryland 21014

5. Location of Legal Description

Courthouse, Registry of Deeds, etc.

Liber# Folio#

Street & Number

City, Town

State and Zip Code

6. Representation in Existing Historic Survey

 Yes ☒ No

Title

Date

Federal

State

County

Local

Depository for Survey Records

City, Town

State and Zip Code

7. Description

Survey No. HA-1715

Condition				
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	Date of Move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed			

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 1

Description Summary

The Southampton Road Bridge over Bynum Run is located just northeast of the town of Bel Air in Harford County, Maryland. This two-lane, simple-span, steel-beam bridge has been assigned the number H-47 by the Harford County Government for identification purposes, and is located within the boundaries of Heighe House (HA-1770), a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The bridge carries traffic on Southampton Road, which generally runs east-west, over Bynum Run, which runs north-south, and is located in a once-rural area of the county which is rapidly becoming more suburban in character. There are residences and scattered fields adjacent to both the bridge and the road.

General Description

Southampton Road Bridge is a two-lane, simple-span, steel-beam bridge supported with 15" deep steel rolled sections, full-height concrete abutments, and a center concrete pier. The ends of the beams are encased in concrete and no bearings are visible. The west span has an 8" reinforced-concrete-slab deck with a bituminous concrete wearing surface, and the east span has corrugated-metal-plate flooring with a bituminous concrete wearing surface. There are 3 1/2" diameter pipe railings on each side of the deck. The structure has a roadway width of 22' 4" without sidewalks, and carries two lanes of traffic, one eastbound and one westbound, over a total bridge length of 55". The structure is at a 20-degree left front skew. There are no guardrails on the approaches.

The original 1930 structure consisted of a single-span, steel stringer bridge with a reinforced-concrete deck supported by full-height concrete abutments. In the 1950s, a second simple span was added consisting of corrugated-metal-plate flooring with a bituminous concrete wearing surface supported by steel stringers. The original east abutment was converted into a concrete pier, and a new east abutment was constructed.

According to a report prepared in December 1995 by the engineering firm of Whitney, Bailey, Cox, and Magnani, the bridge is in poor condition. Several areas of the deck on the west bridge span have spalled concrete and exposed and corroded reinforcing steel. The east span is significantly rusted and corroded. The west abutment has cracked and slightly displaced due to a tree growing in the wingwall backfill area. The bridge railing is deteriorated and does not meet current safety standards.

8. Significance

Survey No. HA-1715

Period	Areas of Significance - Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Archeology-Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> Archeology-Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Law	<input type="checkbox"/> Science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Economics	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Exploration/Settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Politics/Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Invention		

Specific Dates	Architect	Builder	Area
1930			
Applicable Criteria:	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D
Applicable Exception	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G
Level of Significance	<input type="checkbox"/> National	<input type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> Local

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form

Continuation Sheet. Section 8: Significance

Southampton Road Bridge over Bynum Run, Harford County, MD - HA-1715

Section 8 Page 3

Significance Summary

The Southampton Road Bridge was built to replace an earlier bridge at the same location. The bridge's original lane was constructed in 1930, and a second lane, which doubled the size of the bridge, was added in the 1950s. The identities of the designer and builder of the bridge are not known. The bridge is a representative example of metal girder bridge construction, a type of which hundreds were built across Maryland prior to World War II.

Southampton Road Bridge

The current Southampton Road Bridge was constructed to replace an earlier bridge at this same location. The first lane of the bridge was constructed in 1930. A second lane was added sometime during the 1950s to accommodate a change in the flow of Bynum Run. Research at the Harford County Department of Public Works has not revealed the identity of either the designer or the builder of either lane of the bridge. It was likely built by the Harford County Government or by a contractor hired by the County Government.

Place of the Southampton Road Bridge in the Context of Metal Girder Bridges in the State of Maryland

According to the Maryland State Highway Administration, there are three periods of significance associated with metal girder bridges in Maryland:

1846-1870 - when this type of bridge was first introduced and popularized by railroad companies;

1870-1920 - when metal girder bridge design and construction was standardized and increasingly used for highway bridges; and

1920-1965 - when the Maryland State Road Commission used metal girder bridges for ordinary highway bridges as well as for grade-crossing elimination structures.¹

The Southampton Road Bridge was constructed and also altered within the third period of significance, when numerous metal girder bridges were erected across the state as highway bridges.

The Maryland State Highway Administration currently maintains a statewide list of county and municipal bridges. Out of 550 bridges built between 1901 and 1930, 200 are described as steel beam, steel girder, or steel stringer and girder bridges. This figure suggests that "among the various highway bridge types built in the early twentieth century metal girder bridges in Maryland between 1900 and 1930 were second in popularity only to reinforced concrete bridges." Girder bridges continued to be built in large numbers in Maryland during the 1930s up until World War II.²

¹P.A.C. Spero & Company and Louis Berger and Associates, Historic Highway Bridges in Maryland: 1631-1960: Historic Context Report, (Prepared for Maryland State Highway Administration, July 1995, Revised October 1995), 129.

²Spero and Berger, Historic Highway Bridges in Maryland, 127.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. HA-1715

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

The boundary of the Southampton Road Bridge is coterminus with the structure itself, as it encompasses only the bridge and the ground over which it spans.

11. Form Prepared by

Name/Title Laura L. Bobeczko, Judith Robinson, Architectural Historians

Organization Robinson & Associates, Inc. Date March 31, 1997

Street & Number 1909 Q Street, N.W. Telephone 202-234-2333

City or Town Washington State and Zip Code D.C. 20009

Approved by the Federal Preservation Officer

Concurrence of State Preservation Officer

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

Return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCP/DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, Maryland 21032-2023
(410) 514-7600

Bibliography

P.A.C. Spero & Company and Louis Berger and Associates. Historic Highway Bridges in Maryland: 1631-1960: Historic Context Report. Prepared for Maryland State Highway Administration, July 1995, Revised October 1995.

Pro-Tech Engineers, Inc. 1991 Bridge Inspection Report, Bridge No. H-47, Southampton Road over Bynum Run. August 14, 1991.

Travis, Sarah and Christopher Weeks. Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, Historic Bridge Inventory Form for Southampton Road over Bynum Run Bridge #47, Draft. Prepared for Maryland State Highway Administration and Maryland Historical Trust, June 1996.

Whitney, Bailey, Cox, and Magnani. Bridge Improvement Study, Final Report, Southampton Road Bridge over Bynum Run. Prepared for Harford County Government, Department of Public Works, December 1995.



HA-1715 - Southampton Road Bridge over Bynum Run
Harford County, MD
USGS Map, Bel Air Quadrangle
1956, Photorevised 1986
7.5 minute series



MLHP # HA - 1715

Southampton Road Bridge over Bynum Run

Bel Air, Harford County, MD

Laura L. Bobeczko

11/7/96

Negative located at MD SHPO

View of bridge facing west

1 of 2



MHP# HA-1715

Southampton Road Bridge over Bynum Run

Bel Air, Harford County, MD

Laura L. Bobeczko

11/7/96

Negative located at MDSHPO

View of bridge facing southwest

2 of 2